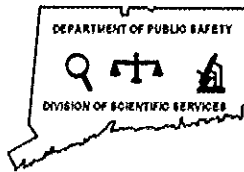


## STATE OF CONNECTICUT



### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

*John A. Danaher III  
Commissioner*

*Lieutenant Edwin S. Henlon  
Chief of Staff*

March 12, 2010

Rep. James F. Spallone, Co-Chairman  
Sen. Gayle S. Slosberg, Co-Chairman  
Government Administration and Elections Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

#### **SB 423 AAC RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT TOWN CLERKS CONCERNING DISCLOSURE AND ELECTIONS LAWS**

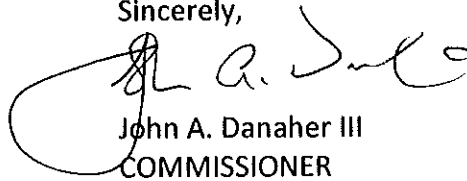
**The Department of Public Safety opposes section one of this bill.**

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-217, protects from public disclosure by any public agency the residential addresses of twelve different groups of government employees whom the legislature determined required this critical protection as a function of the work that they do for the citizens of this state. Among others, the statute protects law enforcement officers, state and federal judges, prosecutors and public defenders, and employees of the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Correction. There is a compelling public policy justification for providing this critical statutory protection for these public servants. Simply because of the work that they do for the citizens of this state, these dedicated state and federal officers and employees, and their families, risk becoming the target of criminal revenge.

Enactment of this bill would effectively negate the protections of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-217, as the residential address of any of the protected parties could be easily ascertained from the local City or Town Hall. It would make available to violent felons, for example, the home address of the police officer that arrested them, the assistant state's attorney that prosecuted them, the public defender who represented them, the judge that sentenced them, the correction officer who guards them, the parole board members who denied the criminal's request for parole, and the DCF worker that was forced to remove their children from their home. The bill would also render ineffective the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 14-10(e), which allow many of these same parties to protect their residential addresses from inclusion in certain records of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

While there is no perfect way to completely protect the residential addresses of these government employees engaged in sensitive work, the common sense protection enacted by the legislature to prevent public agencies from distributing their residential addresses to any who may ask should not be eviscerated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Danaher III", written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

John A. Danaher III  
COMMISSIONER